



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. AMAT/2640.Y2/SYNX/SYNX/JBI

all
01/16/04
#70F

JAN 06 2004

Application of:
Tony Kroeker

Serial No.: 09/874,550

Confirmation No.: 6635

Filed: June 4, 2001

For: Single Wafer Load Lock With Internal Wafer Transport

MAIL STOP RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

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Group Art Unit: 3652

Examiner: Steven A. Bratlie

RECEIVED

JAN 12 2004

GROUP 3600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In conjunction with filing a request for continuing examination, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/AMAT/2640.Y2/KMT, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on January 6, 2004 with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," mailing label No. EV335478046US addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

1/6/04 Keisha 2/28

Date Signature

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